

within guidelines set forth by section 4 of this act. Section 4 provides broad guidelines outlining such programs should counties desire to begin such programs. Pursuant to interim study resolution 233, the Judiciary Committee learned that present law was unclear as to the authority of the county attorneys to divert those accused of criminal offenses. Some counties have been operating such programs on an on-going basis for years while others insist that their statutory authority for doing so is not clear. This bill is permissive in nature in that it expressly authorizes county attorneys to establish such programs if they so desire.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Reutzel.

SENATOR REUTZEL: Mr. President, members of the body, I would only echo what Senator Nichol has said. This is permissive legislation. It has come about because there is some need for clarification on what we can do in pre-trial diversion since we have transferred some county employees over to the state in the probation program. So I would urge the introduction of this bill.

PRESIDENT: Is there any further discussion on Request #685 of the Judiciary Committee? If not, all those in favor of introducing the bill Request #685 vote aye, opposed nay. This will require 30 votes. Have you all voted? Record the vote.

CLERK: 30 ayes, 0 nays on the motion to introduce, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Motion passes and read the bill, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: LB 573. Read title. (See page 486, Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT: Anything further, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: Mr. President, I have an Attorney General's opinion addressed to Senator Koch which will be inserted in the Legislative Journal. (See pages 487 and 488.)

Mr. President, Senator Haberman asked unanimous consent to have his name added to LB 505 as co-introducer.

PRESIDENT: If no objections, so ordered. We are ready now for agenda item #6, Final Reading. Would the Sergeant at Arms make sure that all unauthorized personnel are off the floor, all nonlegislators are out of the aisles, legislators are at their desks. We are on Final Reading. We will